

Amendments to the Claims:

1-22 (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) Method to promote the regeneration of the cells in the bone marrow and the peripheral blood of a patient subjected to a chemotherapeutic antineoplastic treatment comprising administration to said patient of an effective amount of an antineoplastic agent that causes an acute reduction of said cells, said method comprising administration of laminarin to the patient in an amount effective to cause promotion of the regeneration of the cells, the laminarin being administered in conjunction with the administration of the ~~neoplastic~~-antineoplastic agent, wherein said laminarin :

- has a molecular weight from about 2,500 to about 6,000, and
- consists essentially of a main linear chain of 15 to 35 glucopyranose units joined by β -(1,3) linkages optionally branched with glucopyranose units linked to the main chain by β -(1,6) linkages, the terminal unit of the main chain being selected from the group consisting of glucose and mannitol.

24. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 23 wherein the antineoplastic agent is cyclophosphamide.

25. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 23 wherein the laminarin is administered orally, intravenously or intraperitoneally.

26. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 24 wherein laminarin is administered orally, intravenously or intraperitoneally.

27. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 23 wherein laminarin is administered before, simultaneously with or after the antineoplastic agent.

28. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 24 wherein laminarin is administered before, simultaneously with or after cyclophosphamide.
29. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 23 wherein laminarin is soluble laminarin.
30. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 24 wherein laminarin is soluble laminarin.
31. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 25 wherein laminarin is soluble laminarin.
32. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 26 wherein laminarin is soluble laminarin.
33. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 27 wherein laminarin is soluble laminarin.
34. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 28 wherein laminarin is soluble laminarin.